

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 34 with the following new paragraph:

In formulae (2) and (3), R⁴ and R⁶ represent straight, branched or cyclic alkyl groups of 1 to 15 carbon atoms which may contain at least one group selected from among hydroxyl, carbonyl, ester, ether, sulfide, carbonate, cyano and acetal groups. Specific, non-limiting examples of suitable alkyl groups include methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl, pentyl, hexyl, decyl, pentadecyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, 2-tetrahydrofuryl, 2-oxo-3-tetrahydrofuryl, 2-tetrahydro-2H-pyranyl, tetrahydrofurfuryl, methoxymethyl, ethoxymethyl, propoxymethyl, (2-methoxyethoxy)methyl, cyanomethyl, methylthiomethyl, acetoxyethyl, formyloxyethyl, 1,3-dioxolan-4-ylmethyl, (2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl)methyl, (2-oxo-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl)methyl, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, ~~t-butoxycarbonyl~~, 2-hydroxyethyl, 1-methoxyethyl, 2-methoxyethyl, 1-ethoxyethyl, 2-ethoxyethyl, 2-propoxyethyl, 2-(2-methoxyethoxyethyl), 2-(2-tetrahydro-2H-pyranyloxyethyl), 2-formyloxyethyl, 2-acetoxyethyl, 2-propionyloxyethyl, 2-butyryloxyethyl, 2-valeryloxyethyl, 2-hexanoyloxyethyl, 2-cyanoethyl, 2-methylthioethyl, 2-methoxycarbonyloxyethyl, 2,2-dimethoxyethyl, 2,2-diethoxyethyl, 3,3-dimethoxypropyl, 3,3-diethoxypropyl, 2-hydroxypropyl, 2-methoxypropyl, 2-acetoxypropyl, 2-propionyloxypropyl, 3-hydroxypropyl, and 4-hydroxybutyl.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 43, line 31, with the following new paragraph:

Examples of suitable carboxyl group-bearing nitrogenous compounds include aminobenzoic acid, indolecarboxylic acid, and amino acid derivatives (e.g. nicotinic acid, alanine, alginine arginine, aspartic acid, glutamic acid, glycine, histidine, isoleucine, glycylleucine, leucine, methionine, phenylalanine, threonine, lysine, 3-aminopyrazine-2-carboxylic acid, and methoxyalanine). Examples of suitable sulfonyl group-bearing nitrogenous compounds include 3-pyridinesulfonic acid and pyridinium p-toluenesulfonate. Examples of suitable hydroxyl group-bearing nitrogenous compounds, hydroxyphenyl group-bearing nitrogenous compounds, and alcoholic nitrogenous compounds include 2-hydroxypyridine, aminocresol, 2,4-quinolinediol, 3-indolemethanol hydrate, monoethanolamine, diethanolamine, triethanolamine, N-ethyldiethanolamine, N,N-diethylethanolamine, triisopropanolamine, 2,2'-iminodiethanol, 2-aminoethanol, 3-amino-1-propanol, 4-amino-1-butanol, 4-(2-hydroxyethyl)morpholine, 2-(2-hydroxyethyl)pyridine, 1-(2-hydroxyethyl)piperazine, 1-[2-(2-hydroxyethoxy)ethyl]piperazine, piperidine ethanol, 1-(2-hydroxyethyl)pyrrolidine, 1-(2-hydroxyethyl)-2-pyrrolidinone, 3-piperidino-1,2-propanediol, 3-pyrrolidino-1,2-propanediol, 8-hydroxyjulolidine, 3-quinuclidinol, 3-tropanol, 1-methyl-2-pyrrolidine ethanol, 1-aziridine ethanol, N-(2-hydroxyethyl)phthalimide, and N-(2-hydroxyethyl)isonicotinamide. Examples of suitable amide derivatives include formamide, N-methylformamide, N,N-dimethylformamide, acetamide, N-methylacetamide, N,N-dimethylacetamide, propionamide, and benzamide. Suitable imide derivatives include phthalimide, succinimide, and maleimide.